

PROGRAM POLICIES MEDICAL AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS	CHILDREN/STAFF WHO BECOME ILL DURING CARE EXCULSION COVID-19	SUBJECT	COVID-19
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POLICY

To ensure the health and well being of children within the early learning and child care setting, children who become ill while attending the program will be immediately isolated and required to leave the program. Staff must consistently assess the health of children in care.

PROCEDURES

When to exclude

Communicable Diseases

If COVID-19 or any other infectious disease is suspected, the parent should be contacted immediately, and the child must be isolated from the other children and supervised until the parent arrives. Staff should ensure that the child is as comfortable as possible. The Health Department will be consulted regarding any COVID-19 suspected cases and recommended protocols will be implemented.

The Health Department is to be notified of symptoms of ill health as required. Staff will follow the recommendations of the Health Department and share with the parent (ie. 48 hours symptom free, self-assessment required). A note will also be posted at the site for at least 7 days notifying parents of the situation if there are suspected cases or confirmed cases, i.e. there was one confirmed case of COVID-19 at the centre on a specific date the children and staff attending are self-isolating for 14 days. The environment has been cleaned and disinfected. Information regarding the sanitary procedures will be provided to parents to reassure families of all follow up precautions in place to ensure the well-being of others in the centre.

Parents are to be offered information regarding the incubation and isolation periods as required. The Health Department will be contacted for more information.

Any child who develops symptoms of ill health including symptoms of ill health related to COVID-19 must leave the child care program.

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Please be advised that this document does not constitute legal advice and should not be relied on as such. The information provided in this document does not impact the Ministry's authority to enforce the CCEYA and its regulations. Ministry staff will continue to enforce such legislation based on the facts as they may find them at the time of any inspection or investigation.

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Symptoms include:

- Feeling feverish
- Coughing
- Runny nose
- sneezing
- Nasal congestion
- Difficulty breathing
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Sore throat
- Hoarseness/difficulty swallowing
- Myalgia (body ache)
- Headache
- Pink eye
- Rash

If the child has any symptoms (including fever, cough, difficulty breathing, vomiting, or diarrhea), the child must be isolated immediately from the other children in a separate room and supervised at all times.

The parent must be notified to arrange for pick-up of the child. If the parent is not reached an emergency contact person will be contacted to pick up the child.

Every effort must be made to keep the child comfortable until someone arrives to take him or her home.

Staff must document the situation in the Daily Communication Log and notify the Supervisor or designate immediately to ensure that this information is managed and recorded in the child's file on the Symptoms of Ill Health and report the incident to the Health Department, as necessary/appropriate.

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How to exclude

- Supervise the child in a designated room with a hand washing sink or hand sanitizer available
- Notify parents/caregivers of the sick child for pick up
- Child should wear surgical mask if tolerated
- Only one staff should be in the designated room and attempt physical distancing of 2 meters. Staff should wear a mask and gloves. In addition, staff should perform hand hygiene and attempt to not touch their face with unwashed hands
- Increase ventilation in the designated exclusion room if possible (e.g., open windows)
- Clean and disinfect the area immediately after the child has been sent home
- The Health Department will be contacted for direction on testing and self isolation for child, staff and children who were in the same room with the ill child
- Children or staff who have been exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19 should be excluded from the child care setting and follow Health Department recommendations.

Returning from exclusion due to illness

- Staff/children who are being managed by Durham Public Health (e.g., confirmed cases of COVID-19, household contacts of cases) should follow instructions from Durham Health Department to determine when to return to the facility. Confirmation from Durham Health Department will be required.
- Child can return to program based on the recommendations of the Health Department this may include symptom free for 48 hrs, after confirmed negative testing or other isolation recommendations.

Staff Illness

Any staff person who suspects that they have an infectious disease should follow common sense precautions and should not attend the child care program if they are not well, particularly if their symptoms include any outlined in the COVID-19 screening. Staff must pass the active screen process to work at the site.

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If a staff member becomes ill while at the centre they should, if possible, isolate themselves immediately until they are able to leave.

A staff person who presents with symptoms of ill health must notify their supervisor. The Health Department will be notified, and staff will follow the direction of public health. Direction may include further self-isolation, monitoring of symptoms, completing self-assessment and testing.

A staff member's illness that is determined to be work-related must complete the appropriate internal documentation required by the centre.

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